

THE NEW BOYS

The Doon School Quintet is an intimate study of India's most prestigious boys' boarding school, located in Dehra Dun in Uttaranchal. Sometimes called 'the Eton of India,' Doon School has nevertheless developed its own distinctive style and presents a curious mixture of privilege and egalitarianism. It was established by a group of Indian nationalists in the 1930s to produce a new generation of leaders who would guide the nation after Independence. Since then it has become highly influential in the creation of the new Indian elites and has come to epitomize many aspects of Indian postcoloniality.



The social dynamics of the group is the focus of this study of life in Foot House, one of Doon School's dormitories for new boys. It begins a few days before the boys appear and shows them arriving, struggling with their trunks and suitcases. It then follows them for the next two months of their lives in the house. The film provides a comparison to the group viewed in *With Morning Hearts*, for these boys appear more divided and

class-conscious. Within the group there is a range of personalities and backgrounds - some are natural leaders, some subject to teasing and bullying, some argumentative, some peace-makers. An important feature of the film is the inclusion of conversations among the boys about the causes of aggression and warfare, homesickness, restaurant food, and how to speak to a ghost.

"Continues MacDougall's Doon School project with a series of nuanced observations on the adolescent struggle of making locality out of an alien place. Through exploring the contexts of conflict, loneliness, confidence, trust, and friendship, the film evocatively captures children's strategies of negotiating a world where belonging can not be taken for granted. This is a poignant document of young lives manoeuvring between personal anxiety and worldly confidence, at once reflective and entangled in the moment."



- ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR SANJAY SRIVASTAVA, HEAD OF SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATION AND CREATIVE ARTS, DEAKIN UNIVERSITY; AUTHOR OF *CONSTRUCTING POST-COLONIAL INDIA: NATIONAL CHARACTER AND THE DOON SCHOOL*. (ROUTLEDGE, 1998).

ALSO AVAILABLE FROM RONIN FILMS IN THE DOON SCHOOL QUINTET
PART 1 - DOON SCHOOL CHRONICLES **PART 2 - WITH MORNING HEARTS**
PART 3 - KARAM IN JAIPUR **PART 5 - THE AGE OF REASON**

PART 4 OF THE DOON SCHOOL QUINTET
THE NEW BOYS



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From the film series by David MacDougall

PART 4 OF THE DOON SCHOOL QUINTET

Approx.
100 mins

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